

Business Notices.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT VICTORY.—The Ohio State Fair, held last week at Dayton, awarded the first premium to the *Grover & Baker*, over all other Sewing-Machines. The contest was spirited, and all the leading machines contended.

Beauty, neatness, and economy are the essential qualities of a good style of Sewing-Machine. Its assortment of fine, strong, and durable, in keeping with the times. Its famous warehouse, No. 212 Broadway, corner of Fulton-st., is thronged daily, viewing his large assortment, and his sales exceed all other competitors. Give him a call.

BARRY'S TRICHOPOREUS is the best and cheapest for Dressing, Beautifying, Curling, Cutting, Preserving, and Restoring the Hair. Ladies, try it. Sold by Druggists.

UNDERSHIRTS AND DRAWERS, SILEX, BUCKLIN, LANSDOWN, & CO., All sizes, at the old established stand, No. 61 NASSAU STREET. PRICES LOW.

WILLCOX & GIBBS SEWING MACHINE, No. 508 Broadway. \$30.

New-York Daily Tribune

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1861.

The Mayor last evening sent to the Common Council a plan for making the allotment system effective in the city, by means of which soldiers will be enabled to remit a portion of their pay to their families. The measure is a good one, and we hope it will be adopted.

The Committees of the several Union organizations are invited to meet to-day, at noon, at the office of Mr. John Livingston, in the American Exchange Bank building, No. 125 Broadway, to harmonize conflicting interests, and concentrate upon a ticket.

The Conventions last evening for the nomination of County officers, adjourned without presenting any tickets. The Committees of Conference, it is to be hoped, will bring harmony out of the various elements at work in these different bodies.

Some of the Banks having filed affidavits and pledges that the money deposited with them by Southerners was not intended, and shall not be used for the purpose of aiding and abetting the rebellion, the United States District-Attorney has consented to dismiss the libels against the deposits, stocks, and similar property recently seized in this city, wherever such pledges have been given.

The death of Commissary-General Gibson leaves an important office vacant at a time when the proper fulfillment of its duties are of great importance to the welfare of the country. These duties, however, have been for some time performed acceptably and faithfully by Col. Taylor, a brother of the late President Taylor, and in the regular line of promotion the office will fall to him.

We print this morning, in our advertising columns, an endorsement of Mr. Frederick L. Vulte, for the Sheriffship. The names and standing of the signers of the testimonial are numerous, weighty, and respectable. They certify that for 20 years Mr. Vulte has acceptably filled the office of Under Sheriff of the county, and that he possesses the requisite qualifications for the higher position to which he aspires.

Our Washington dispatches contain a report from Mr. Morris Davis, M. C., of Philadelphia, of some facts in relation to the difficulties which Gen. Fremont has had to encounter in his command, which will be read with interest as a counter statement to the many charges that have been made against him, and which, in the absence of any defense, have undoubtedly made some impression on the public mind. The facts set forth by Mr. Davis are of such a character that they should at least have the effect to postpone a judgment prejudicial to the efficiency of Gen. Fremont. They seem to have had such weight with the President as to call forth a renewed expression of his continued confidence in the General of the West.

A dispatch to the Associated Press shows that there has been some further difficulty in relation to the arrest of Col. Blair, which seems, however, to have been finally settled by an order from Gen. Scott for his release.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

The situation at Washington is without material change. The exact position of the Rebel army is not known, one report placing it between Aquia Creek and Manassas Junction, with the right wing on the Potomac; another, that it is divided, one portion being above the city and another below it. The latter statement, however, is not credited at Washington, perhaps because it is difficult to understand what object the enemy could have in thus dividing his forces. The Federal pickets occupy one end of the village of Falls Church, and the Rebels the other, while they are putting up earthworks on a hill, at the distance of a mile and a half, which commands the place. Our forces are fortifying the points taken possession of on Saturday. The Rebel batteries at Free Stone Point are deserted. Eight of their regiments appeared on the Potomac yesterday, opposite Great Falls, but were dispersed by a battery planted on the Maryland side by Gen. McClellan.

There is nothing of interest from Missouri except the official report of Price of the taking of Lexington. He acknowledges to only 25 killed and 72 wounded. The great seal of the State and the public records are in his possession, and he captured \$800,000 in money, beside \$100,000 worth of commissary stores, with a large quantity of arms and munitions. Hunter, Pope, Sturgis, Lane, and Montgomery are all reported as advancing rapidly on Lexington from different quarters to redeem, under Gen. Fremont, the disaster of the fall of Lexington.

In Kentucky it is reported that Gen. Zollicoffer has taken Manchester, Clay County, with a great destruction of property, and there is a doubtful rumor of an engagement between Bardwell and Bloomfield.

The United States vessels Preble, Marion, and Massachusetts are reported to have landed at the mouth of the Mississippi, to have thrown up batteries, and re-lighted the light.

DISTRICT-ATTORNEY.

Our City elects a District-Attorney this Fall, and we trust she will elect a good one. Nelson J. Waterbury, the incumbent, is understood to be a candidate. Before he shall be nominated, we want explicit answers to two questions, namely:

I. Has Mr. Waterbury returned to the City Chamberlain or Controller the moneys received by him while in office on account of the forfeiture of recognizances, whether in the way of compromise or payment in full? If he has not so accounted, we insist that he do so at once, rendering a detailed account, and making affidavit that the amount paid over (now or hitherto) is all he has received on account of recognizances.

II. Has Mr. Waterbury brought to trial the functionaries and contractors who have swindled and shamed our City during his official term? We will name Member of Assembly Andrew Smith, Aldermen Terence Farley and Harry, ex-Controller's Clerk J. Bryant Smith, ("Chenung Smith"), Contractors Charles Devlin and John Fitzpatrick, as persons whom we understand to have been long since indicted for various frauds on the city, forgeries, or other such offenses. Why are they not tried? Let the public know.

WHY NOT SAVE MILLIONS?

The President directed, and Congress afterward indorsed, a very considerable augmentation of our Standing Army. An experiment vigorously prosecuted through more than three months, has proved the utter impossibility of filling up the new regiments thus created on paper. They are already abundantly officered, but not at all manned. Up to this hour, with a large amount of good recruiting at a heavy cost, we believe less than three thousand privates in all have been enlisted, while a great number of officers have been kept out of active service at recruiting stations at a cost of many thousands dollars per day. Shall this waste of men and money go on?

We urge that this business of recruiting regulars be given up, or reduced to the lowest dimensions. Take the recruits already enlisted to fill up the old regiments, (which need them badly enough), and employ the officers of the projected new regiments in filling vacancies as they occur in the Volunteers. There is need of officers here already, and will be more vacancies soon if the Examining Board does its duty.

This plan would at once reduce the current expenses of the Military service and greatly increase its efficiency. Then why not?

GENERALS AND CRITICS.

That newspaper criticism of Military movements in contemplation or in progress is hazardous if not certainly pernicious, is a point on which our mind is made up; but we neither assume nor admit that civilians are incompetent to detect and expose Military blunders. On the contrary, when a commanding general officially reports, for example, that he desired to have the various divisions and brigades of his army immediately in front of the enemy the night before the morning on which he gave battle, but they were nevertheless left ten or fifteen miles off, because the brigadiers and colonels preferred that arrangement, it requires no military training or experience to detect that commander's error. If he further reports that, in a battle commenced by himself, and wherein he was defeated, he had less than half his army under fire, while the enemy overwhelmed him by bringing up his entire force, a civilian may be as certain as a veteran that there must be some other business for which that general is better qualified than for that of leading armies. For one of the most important and obvious canons of the art of war is that which enjoins the commander to be strong at the deciding point, if weak everywhere else; and one may thoroughly comprehend this who does not know how to order or present arms. A civilian may know perfectly what ought to be done in war, though none but a good soldier can tell how it is to be done.

Our objection to outside criticism on army operations or progress is based on the palpable inadequacy of the data on which such criticism is usually based. Just now, for illustration, there are loyal journals which evince impatience at Gen. McClellan's inactivity, while Rebel gazettes loudly murmur in like spirit at Beauregard's failure to capture Washington or at least force its defenders to a decisive battle. Now, if we knew all that is known to both Generals McClellan and Beauregard of the strength and condition of their respective armies, we might venture to suggest to one or the other of them the expediency of moving on, though we do not doubt that either of them knows a hundred times more of the art of war than we ever shall. But can one of these newspaper grumblers for an advance, tell the strength of either main army within twenty-five thousand? Who does know to-day whether there are more Union or Rebel troops within a day's march of the Potomac? Who does certainly know that either army may not fall below 150,000 men, and that there are not over 200,000 confronting it? What rashness, then, to insist that either General should give battle without knowing very nearly with what strength he could offer it, and what force he would have to meet? After the battle shall have been fought, we may all be wise as owls, provided the Confederates shall venture to publish their official report of it, as they have not yet been goaded into publishing their official report of the Bull Run combat; but there is not a soldier on earth, not to say a civilian, who can decide whether McClellan, or Beauregard, or neither, ought to assume a vigorous offensive unless he knows the relative strength of their respective armies. And it is highly probable that each commander alone knows the exact strength and approximate efficiency of his own army, while able to give a pretty good estimate of the power pitted against him, while no one else knows even so much as this. At best, accurate knowledge of the strength of either army is sacredly restricted to a very few, and these the most unlikely to share their knowledge with journalists or the public. And neither deserters nor spies can give either commander any

trustworthy account of his opponent's strength, however willing to tell all he knows.

These strictures apply in spirit and substance to the current criticisms on Gen. Fremont's management in Missouri, especially his failure to relieve Lexington. These may be substantially just; but who knows them to be so? Who knows how many men Gen. F. had in hand when first apprised of the peril of Lexington? Who knows how many of these were armed, or could have been until arms were received from the East? Who knows what was the proficiency of these troops in field evolutions? Who knows what was the supply of munitions? Who knows why the expedition actually dispatched up the Missouri the Monday before Lexington fell failed to reach its destination? Do let us ascertain the material facts in the case before proceeding to judgment and execution.

IMPORTANT PRIZE DECISION.

The first legal decision in this city in the matter of prizes taken at sea since the President's proclamation of blockade, was made in the United States Court yesterday by Judge Betts. The case was that of the bark *Hiawatha*, a British vessel, which was seized while trying to run the blockade of the Chesapeake Bay. Ten other vessels were included in the suit, by consent of defendants, so far as the general principles of the law were concerned. Ample time was given for the fullest discussion, and fifteen days were devoted to the arguments of counsel, which were thorough and exhaustive. The grounds of the defense are summed up by the Judge under five general heads: That the Court has no jurisdiction; that the existing public disturbances do not constitute war; that no lawful blockade has been established, and therefore none violated; that no State or States, or citizens or inhabitants of particular States, can become or be treated as enemies of the United States by the Government; that the President has no power to create or declare a state of war with any of the United States or to establish a blockade of any of its ports.

The point of want of jurisdiction, the Judge decided, was unsound. The Supreme Court had, in 1794, decided that the District Courts possess, under the grant in the Constitution, all the powers of Admiralty or Prize Courts. On the power of the President to establish the blockade, and take other means to defend the country, Judge Betts holds that in time of civil war, of insurrection, and rebellion, the nation assailed and attacked by hostile and rebel forces may rightfully resist war levied against itself, alike by closing, embargoing, or blockading ports held by their enemies, as a means of war calculated to weaken and defeat hostile operations to its detriment, as well as to accomplish the end by direct force and superior power, and that no sound distinction exists whether such defensive proceedings are employed in civil, internal, or domestic warfare, or war between nations foreign to each other. Under the laws of nations, the right incident to a war waged by a Government to subdue an insurrection or revolt of its own subjects or citizens is the same in regard to neutral powers as if the hostilities were carried on between independent nations, and applies equally in captures of property for municipal offenses or as prize of war.

The plea of State Rights, and of the impossibility of the United States being at war with one of its own States, he answered by saying that the Union is not composed of subtleties and abstractions. The notion of a Government constructed of numerous parts, each part separate and sovereign in itself, and also sovereign of or against the whole, was never adopted or declared by the founders of the Constitution, and probably not contemplated or comprehended at that day. The officers of the United States Government act within particular States to enforce or defend the laws of the United States, the same as if no State demarcations existed. The whole extent of the country is one nation and one Government. In respect to the United States and its constitutional laws, there are no State lines, and State sovereignty is a non-entity.

Of the Southern Rebels, Judge Betts says they are, so far as their own purposes and acts can fix their political status, as alien and foreign from the United States as if they assumed the names and became the subjects of the various States of Mexico. It can be of no consequence under what name or appellation these enemies unite and act, whether as States, Secessionists, Southerners, or Slaveholders; they are, in every just contemplation of our system of government, insurgents and rebels against a common Government, and waging war for its overthrow.

Looking thoroughly through the points of the defense, therefore, Judge Betts considers each and every one inadequate: he considers the Southern outbreak a flagrant war against the Government; that the insurrection was too great to be put down by the civil power, and was both lawful and necessary to employ the army and navy; that the President had full power to do all that he did do, including the establishment of the blockade; and, further, "that citizens of the United States levying war against the United States are enemies of the Government, notwithstanding their residence within the Union, and that the property possessed and held by them in a state of war, out of and against the authority of the United States, becomes thus property of enemies of the Government, subject to confiscation when arrested at sea; and persons continuing within the authority and dominion of such enemies are clothed with the character and responsibilities of enemies, because of their residence, without regard to their private sentiments or the territorial locality of the place of their hostility."

These are the most important points in Judge Betts's decision. The remainder is devoted to some notice of proceedings in other Prize Courts, and the particular circumstances of the bark *Hiawatha*. He condemns both vessel and cargo because of violation of the blockade in question. The decision is especially important as establishing rules for cases

hereafter to be tried in this and other Districts, and of the broad declaration in regard to the property of persons within the authority and dominion of the public enemy. This point carries the more weight with it inasmuch as Judge Betts is one of the oldest of our Judges, conservative from long judicial habit, and not in the slightest degree liable to be drawn away by any popular enthusiasm into a forgetfulness of the established theories and well-grounded principles of the law.

THE KINGS COUNTY UNION TICKET.

The nominations made by the People's Union Convention of Kings County on Saturday, were confirmed by a nearly unanimous vote, yesterday afternoon. The candidates, with one exception, are the same as heretofore reported. The proceedings were characterized throughout with that unity of sentiment which promises a successful result at the approaching election. The candidates are all fair men, and the ticket, as a whole, is the best in all respects ever placed in nomination in Kings County. It was anticipated that some changes in the Senatorial selections would be made, but it appears that, notwithstanding the outside pressure of interested parties, the Convention adhered to their former action by confirming every candidate nominated by the Committee of Fourteen. The candidates are nearly equally divided between the two great parties, and as such each is fully represented; and there can be no doubt but that the ticket will be zealously supported by all who desire to sustain the Administration in the present critical state of national affairs. The local press are nearly unanimous in favor of the ticket, as is shown by extracts from the different papers annexed:

The Eagle says:

We ask any man who glances over the names of the delegates to the People's Convention if he remembers any similar body composed of men of equal position, of equal integrity, and of equal weight in this community? For once the best elements of the people met on a common platform and have placed a ticket together, and we are confident that they will stand. Had they forgot the important duty entrusted to them and given us more party men, men whose past record would have been a disqualification, we should have been treated with contempt. A man whose name we have not named would have been a man whose name we have not named. The issue before the people now is not, how was the People's Convention elected? but, what is the result? We think an examination of the names presented will show that it is.

The Times considers the ticket a fair one in the main, but objects to the manner in which it was prepared as anything but popular. It expresses the opinion that the candidates for Assembly at least, should have been submitted to the delegations from their respective districts. Its opinion of the candidates generally is favorable. In regard to a prominent name presented by the Democrats, it says:

There are a good many Republicans and Democrats in this section who, misled by newspaper slanders, regard Mr. McLaughlin as an unprincipled, cowardly, and selfish man. He is a man who has been tried, and found guilty, and if there is any man who can convict him of deliberate wrongdoing, we are ready to meet him. The truth is, he has been a man of active life, and he is a man of high character. He is a man who has been tried, and found guilty, and if there is any man who can convict him of deliberate wrongdoing, we are ready to meet him. The truth is, he has been a man of active life, and he is a man of high character.

The News also objects to the manner of making the Assembly nominations, and expresses the opinion that the candidates should have been decided alone by the entire delegation from each District, subject to the ratification of the whole Convention. It states in respect to the movement:

The idea of a mass movement, one in which the masses of all parties take part, having in view only the question of the election of a party, is a notion which has been tried, and found guilty, and if there is any man who can convict him of deliberate wrongdoing, we are ready to meet him. The truth is, he has been a man of active life, and he is a man of high character.

The Star is the only paper which speaks in commendatory tones of the movement, objecting mainly to the mode of nomination adopted by the meeting on Fort Greene, but admits that there are on the "ticket" some names as good "in the city." It also contends "that there are other names entirely distasteful, reeking with all the elements of small party management, and the stench of the Albany lobby."

The preponderance of local evidence is in favor of the Union movement, and we have no reason to believe that the sentiment of the community is contrary thereto. The selections as a whole are good, and should be supported by all who in this crisis desire to uphold the Government, and demonstrate that the North is a unit against the rebels of the South, and all who sympathize with treason.

NEWSPAPER QUACKERIES.

A single journal has the unprincipled assurance to advertise its own circulation as exceeding that of all the other dailies issued in this city! There is no single journal published anywhere in the world which has twice the daily circulation of THE TRIBUNE, nor so much as that of THE TRIBUNE and either of two or three other of our city dailies. In aggregate circulation, no other newspaper issued in any part of the world equals THE TRIBUNE, though our Daily edition is less than that of two or three others, while our Weekly and Semi-Weekly are both unparalleled. Our issues for the past four months have averaged and now stand as follows:

DAILY..... 55,000
SUNDAY..... 22,000
WEEKLY..... 150,000

The scandal of the Press already referred to pretends to be enjoying a large measure of prosperity at this time—a pretense refuted by almost universal experience. The circulation of American dailies is this year larger than ever before, yet a great many have recently been discontinued because their patronage was inadequate to meet their current expenses. We doubt that a single daily in this city has paid its current expenses throughout the last four months, or that a dozen in the Union have done so. Dailies live by their Advertising, and this inevitably falls off in times of business stagnation or depression. No amount of mere circulation will support a journal of the size, price and general characteristics of THE TRIBUNE. Formerly we, with our immediate rivals, were compelled to issue frequent Supplements; but

none has been issued by any New-York journal for months. Yet we have given a larger amount of non-Advertising matter during those very months of general depression than were ever given by any other journal of equally moderate price in any part of the world. Nearly all this matter is original, being prepared for THE TRIBUNE by editorial writers, correspondents, reporters, &c., &c., and much of it transmitted by telegraph. The modern journal is a miracle of cheapness, considering its character and cost, and its constant and rapid increase in circulation is a consequence (in part) of that cheapness. And, though hardly any journal will pay its expenses in 1861, there is doubtless "a good time coming" for those who live to see it. Already there is a sensible improvement in business, and it is felt by journalists as well as others. May its shadow never be less!

A dealer in fire-arms in this city makes a further correction in regard to the price said to have been paid by Gen. Fremont for arms in St. Louis. The Hall's carbines purchased by him had been, it is true, sold by the Government some time ago, a better gun than they originally were having been afterward invented. They were subsequently taken, however, by an enterprising gunsmith, and so altered as to become a most effective weapon, and were declared by competent judges to be among the best in the service, sending a ball 1,000 yards with great force. Though these guns cost originally only \$17.50, that was when the market price of such arms was much lower than now, when it ranges at about \$25. Considering the exigency of the case, when it was necessary that Gen. Fremont should have arms at any price, that paid for these carbines was rather a low than a high one.

It is an act of simple justice to Gen. Fremont to make these explanations of a particular charge against him, appearing originally in our own columns. Whether there are others not so easy of explanation we do not know, but we certainly are not disposed to prejudice a case against him. In this matter of arms, at least, the facts seem to acquit him of any extravagance.

The mails for Europe by the steamship Europa, from Boston, will close to-day at the New-York Post-Office at 5 1/2 p. m.

OXFORD FAIR—CROPS IN SOUTHERN CENTRAL NEW-YORK.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

OXFORD, N. Y., Sept. 25, 1861.
The Oxford Agricultural Fair took place the three first days of this week. The display of stock, produce, &c., was excellent, and owing to the good arrangements of Dr. Sands, the President, and his brother officers, everything went along with the precision of clock-work. The address was delivered by Henry S. Randall of Cortland, and instead of the dreary rain which poured down on Mr. Greeley and his auditors last year, the weather was literally glorious.

The crops of Chenango have generally been good, excepting the apples. The farmers are busy in cutting up the corn, as yet untouched by the frost. The same is true of Cortland and Tompkins Counties, and, I judge from what I hear, of all this part of the State. The peaches failed in Tompkins. Excellent wine, of several varieties, was made in that county, from grapes grown on the slopes about the head of Cayuga Lake. The same husbandry is going on still more extensively about the head of Seneca Lake, in the County of Schenley. The vines seem to me as good as those of Chenango. The rains of the last two months have made abundant fall feed, giving promise of fat beef and mutton for market, and farm stock sent in good condition into the winter. Wool is selling briskly at advanced prices, but the crop seems nearly all sold, excepting now and then a large lot. Butter is advancing in price more slowly, and but a very small part of it has yet been marketed. Notwithstanding the pressure of the time, the rural population of this part of the State are almost united in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war for the Union.

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL EQUIPMENTS.—Our city furnishes all the apparatus of a medical and surgical nature required in the army, East, West, and South. There is a purveying depot in Broome street, near Broadway, to which the general contractor, H. Herndon, of Broadway, has been sending weekly since the 1st of April 500 medicine chests, 120 mess chests for the doctors corps, and a variety of surgical packages, pocket cases, &c. A regiment is provided on an average with \$1,500 worth of surgical appliances and medicines. From these facts may be inferred the important conclusion that no time has been lost in putting our army on a thorough, permanent, health footing. The equipments in this important department are of the first order. Each of the medical chests contains, first, some dozens of bottles, beneath which are stored, with due economy of space, mortar and pestle, a pair of scales, a graduating glass, a pill-bottle, spatula, and other implements. In separate packages there are amputating and trepanning instruments, trusses, and bandages of all sorts, pocket cases, dental forceps, &c. With all these appliances properly bestowed, we may expect that disease will not be permitted to kill, as it has done in other armies, more of the gallant defenders of the flag than the enemy's bullets.

THE GENESSEE VALLEY CANAL.

AQUEDUCTS AND CULVERTS WASHED AWAY—GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Monday, Sept. 30, 1861.
Several culverts and aqueducts, and much of the embankment of the Genessee Valley Canal, have been washed away at different points. Great damage has been done to property by the flood along this canal and the Genessee River.

Boats are now passing the break in the Erie Canal at Holley.

The Steamer Bohemian.

MONROVIA, Monday, Sept. 25, 1861.
The Father Point line has been down since Saturday, consequently we have no tidings of the steamer Bohemian, now due off that point, with Liverpool dates of the 12th and London dates of the 20th inst.

Outward Bound of the Anglo-Saxon.

FATHER POINT, Monday, Sept. 30, 1861.
The steamer Anglo-Saxon, from Quebec for Liverpool, passed this point Saturday evening.

Canadian Affairs.

ROCHESTER, Monday, Sept. 30, 1861.
The propeller George McCall, with a cargo of grain, reported drifting in the lake Saturday, is a total wreck on Long Point, near Coburg. Her crew were saved.
The Government works on the Parliament buildings at Ottawa were stopped to-day. The cause of the stoppage is not positively known.

THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

THE CASE OF GEN. FREMONT

HIS ACTION FULLY VINDICATED.

Interesting Details of His Operations.

FIGHTING AT GREAT FALLS.

Cannon Duel Across the Potomac.

THE REBELS TAKE TO THE WOODS.

INTERESTING FROM RICHMOND.

Army Appointments and Resignations.

GEN. FREMONT.

The Hon. Morris Davis, M. C., arrived to-day from St. Louis, where he has spent several weeks, seeing Fremont every day. He states that the General works eighteen hours out of every twenty-four; that he is overrun with important business, and that he devotes quite as much of his time as is consistent with public duties to private visitors. Mr. Davis declares the reports of exclusiveness grossly exaggerated, as are nearly all the injurious reports which have been made public.

As a commanding officer Gen. Fremont is greatly beloved by the troops. They ever receive him with enthusiasm. When Col. Blair was arrested, the sympathy of the army was altogether with Gen. Fremont, and his removal would operate, without doubt, most seriously against the public interest. The feeling among the rank and file is, that his removal would be tantamount to abandoning the army in Missouri.

On the Saturday preceding the siege of Lexington, 5,000 troops were ordered to Washington from St. Louis. Gen. Fremont then had in St. Louis but 7,500 men, but he immediately sent out two of his best regiments. He said as they left, "The heart must be preserved, even if the extremities perish." The news from Lexington caused him to decline sending more, and Gen. Scott sustained him.

The position of affairs in Missouri, Mr. Davis says, has been most embarrassing. Gen. Fremont had not, up to a week or two ago at all events, more than one-half the force the public supposed he had. This force, necessarily scattered at way distances, could not possibly be concentrated at any point without weakening other positions important to be held.

Gen. Fremont sent 5,000 troops to Paducah, about 5,000 to Bird's Point and left some 3,000 at Cairo, "all being necessary to the Union cause in Kentucky." He begged the Government to seize Bowling Green and occupy Columbus at the time Paducah was occupied. Had this been done great results would have been accomplished. Price, the Rebel General, could not have marched through any portion of Missouri with 20,000 men without attracting attention at an earlier day than that which announced his presence near Lexington.

The theory is, this large force of Price and Jackson was marched in squads, sometimes disguised as poor Union men, and sometimes as Union troops, sometimes as midnight marauders robbing as they went, and having points for meeting, and subsequently concentrating upon Lexington. Mr. Davis is confident that Gen. Fremont will be brilliantly successful in capturing Price.

Gen. Hunter is south, advancing from Rolla. Gens. Pope and Sturgis take care of the northern section, and Gen. Lane and Col. Montgomery are crowding from the west. Mr. Davis says another difficulty in reinforcing Lexington was, that Ben McCulloch was known to be advancing upon Jefferson City, the possession of the capital being the chief aim of the Rebels. Therefore, had the Union force been withdrawn from thence, the end of the enemy would have been accomplished, and a greater calamity than that at Lexington would have befallen.

With the contracts generally Gen. Fremont has not and never had, personally, anything whatever to do. Mr. Davis had an interview with the President to-day, when the President stated that his confidence in Gen. Fremont was unabated, and that complete justice should be done him by the Administration. The loss of Gen. Meigs's conversation in St. Louis led to the belief that he was very favorably impressed with Gen. Fremont, and with the condition of things generally in that quarter.

A DUEL WITH CANNON.

A duel with cannon was fought to-day across the Potomac at Great Falls. This morning the Rebels approached that point with eight regiments of infantry and six cannons. Reinforcements from Gen. McClellan's Brigade went up instantly, when the enemy divided and withdrew, half northward and half southward. What movement this feint covered was a subject of great speculation, until the division which went down the river reappeared and getting their guns into position commenced firing upon the Pennsylvanians on this side. Gen. McClellan's artillery replied, and soon the Rebel infantry were hurrying into the woods to avoid his shot.

AFFAIRS IN RICHMOND.

Col. H. Kelly of Greenwich, New-York, has arrived from Richmond. He had an interview with the President and Cabinet directly after his arrival, and his statements of affairs in Richmond were considered of such importance that he was requested not to make them public. We are credibly informed, however, that Mr. Kelly was arrested by Stewart's Cavalry on the 31st of August at Accotink, when on his way to Fredericksburg, where he had his mining property. On the road to Richmond he was exhibited as a "live Yankee," and treated with much indignity. At Richmond he was imprisoned in the tobacco warehouse, where he had to pay \$1 a day for